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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/684,662

10/10/2000

John Boakes

367.39057X00

4096

20457

7590

02/06/2003

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EXAMINER

LE, HOANGANH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2821

DATE MAILED: 02/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/684,662

Applicant(s)

BOAKES et al

Examiner

HOANGANH LE

Art Unit

2821



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 19, 2002
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-18, 22-24, 28-50, and 53-58 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4-18, 22-24, 28-50, and 53-58 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on Dec 19, 2002 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. The amendment filed on December 19, 2002 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1,2,4-18,22-24,28-50, and 53-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The limitation "tongue-shaped" of the amended claims 1, 22, and 57 finds no support in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the

manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1,2, 4-18,22-24,28-50 and 57-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayes et al (the US Patent No. 5,709,832).

The Hayes et al reference teaches in figures 1-3 an antenna comprising: a conductive element 18 defining a planar antenna and a flexible member 12, 24 arranged to carry the conductive element and to protrude at a fixed position from a surface of a handheld telecommunication apparatus. The conductive element 18 is embedded in the flexible member (figure 1). The flexible member is generally flat and planar (col.2, lines 56-57). The conductive element is disposed on a central bend axis of the flexible member (figure 1). The conductive element 18 is disposed on a substrate 12 (figure 1). The flexible member is biased towards a generally planar equilibrium (figure 1). The assembly further comprises a relatively rigid base portion 20 for connecting the assembly to the telecommunication apparatus. The conductive element is a pre-formed wire (figure 5). The conductive member is a stamped out pattern from a planar sheet. The conductive element is stainless steel or spring steel. The conductive is disposed on the substrate by a process of etching (col. 3, line 13-25). The conductive element is disposed on the substrate by a process of printing using conductive ink (col. 3, lines 15-16). The substrate is polyeste (col. 3, line 4). The substrate is polyamide (col. 3, line 4). The

flexible member is a thermo plastic elastomer. The conductive element is within the flexible member (figure 1). Hayes et al do not teach the flexible member being tongue-shaped.

It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have the flexible member being tongue-shaped, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component. A change in shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

6. Claims 22-24 and 53-56 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Winstead et al (the US Patent No. 6,232,924, of record).

The Winstead et al reference teaches a method of producing an antenna assembly comprising the steps of arranging a planar antenna element 33 to be disposed on a substrate and encapsulating the planar antenna element within a flexible member by means of an injection moulding process (col. 8, lines 19-67 and col. 9, lines 1-3). Winstead et al do not teach the flexible member being tongue-shaped.

It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to have the flexible member being tongue-shaped, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component. A change in shape is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1,2,4-18, 22-24,28-50, and 53-58 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

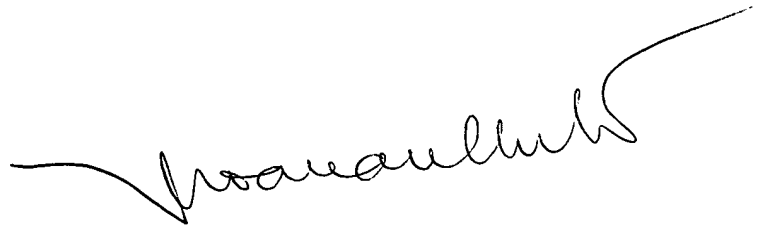
Correspondence

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Primary Examiner Hoanganh Le whose telephone number is (703) 308-4921.

10. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

11. Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications **only** may be submitted to Technology Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 308-7722 or (703) 308-7724.

Hoanganh Le
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2821

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Hoanganh Le', with a long horizontal line extending to the left and a large loop at the end.

Hoanganh Le
Primary Examiner